



# County of Fresno

Hall of Records, Rm. 301  
2281 Tulare Street  
Fresno, California  
93721-2198

## Legislation Text

**File #:** 18-0773, **Version:** 1

**DATE:** August 7, 2018  
**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**SUBMITTED BY:** Paul Nerland, Director of Human Resources  
**SUBJECT:** Request to Defend Public Officer(s) or Employee(s)

**RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):**

**Approve and authorize Chairman to execute Agreement to Defend Public Officer(s) or Employee(s) for the employee(s) listed below:**

**Name of Officer(s)/  
Employee(s)**

**Position**

**Title of Action**

William Nemoto	Correctional Officer III Sheriff's Department	Michael Hernandez Gonzalez
David Gutierrez	Correctional Officer IV Sheriff's Department	v Mims, et al.
John Palacios	Correctional Officer III Sheriff's Department	

**Description:**

Claimant alleges he was incorrectly classified by jail staff and placed in a pre-trial holding cell with known gang members where he was attacked and beaten, which is the proximate cause of the claimant's bodily injuries.

Fresno County Claim No.: 9701 Eastern District Court Case No.1:15-CV-01200-BAM-(PC)  
Claimant: Michael Hernandez Gonzalez

**ALTERNATIVE ACTION(S):**

No alternative action is available as Article 4 (commencing with section 825), Chapter 1, Part 2, Division 3.6 of Title 1 of the Government Code requires the County indemnify its public employees.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Funds to finance the cost of defense are contained in the Risk Management Internal Services Fund. Defense costs are supported by annual budgetary contributions based on actuarial projections.

**DISCUSSION:**

The California Government Code requires the County to defend its officer(s) and/or employees(s) who are sued because of their actions while in the course and scope of employment. The County may require officer(s)

and/or employee(s) to agree that the County's rights under the law are protected.

In the above-mentioned action, the officer(s) and/or employee(s) who have been named in the suit have requested the County to provide legal defense. The necessary agreement to protect the County's rights has been signed by said officer(s) and/or employee(s) and is on file with the Clerk of the Board.

ATTACHMENTS INCLUDED AND/OR ON FILE:

On file with Clerk - Agreement to Defend Public Officer(s) or Employee(s) for William Nemoto with Exhibit "A"  
Article 4. Indemnification of Public Employees

On file with Clerk - Agreement to Defend Public Officer(s) or Employee(s) for David Gutierrez with Exhibit "A"  
Article 4. Indemnification of Public Employees

On file with Clerk - Agreement to Defend Public Officer(s) or Employee(s) for John Palacios with Exhibit "A"  
Article 4. Indemnification of Public Employees

CAO ANALYST:

Juan Lopez